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Volume 1, Issue 9 -- August 22, 2013



## The Write Stuff

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Dear Owen,

My favorite recent e-mail came with the subject I stole for this newsletter -- *Need Help?* It wasn't a generic attention grabber, but a sincere offer to lend a hand with next week's [Colorado Climate Change Forum](#) at the DU Law School. Thanks to Jim for the offer, and for the use of your words.

The Climate Change event should be a can't-miss calendar item, and I'll send you more information about it in a few days, but I really hope you can come up and cap off a month of action with us on Wednesday, August 28th.

This has been an amazing August in terms of the number of folks helping out with any number of causes, from the environmental work I've focused much of my month on to our [Education Forum](#) (if you missed the forum on the **School Finance Act--Amendment 66**, please click the link and check out the videos -- great panelists, intelligent audience, and diverse opinions discussed with great respect!) and canvassing **Day of Action in House District 2**, and perhaps foremost on folks minds in

### IN THIS ISSUE

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- ★ [Action August](#)
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- ★ [Just Like Us -- World Premiere Adaptation of the Book by Helen Thorpe](#)
- ★ [Upcoming Events](#)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

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- ★ *House District 2 Day of Action -- Defending Our Senate, Field Trip to Colorado Springs with Speaker Mark Ferrandino in Support of Senate President John Morse, Saturday, August 24, 10 a.m. in Colorado Springs*
- ★ *The Butler -- HD2 Dinner and a Movie, Sunday, August 25 at 3:45 p.m*

Colorado, to chipping in to **support Senate President John Morse and Senator Angela Giron** in defending them against the [September 10th recall elections](#).

This month has been appropriately dubbed "**Action August**" by my friends at Organizing for Action, and it's hard to remember an "off-year" August with so much activity. I've found the urge to engage irresistible as local folks are taking on everything from Immigration Reform and Health Care Reform to Gun Safety, and Climate Change.

And call me a cock-eyed optimist, but it feels like it's making a difference. We've moved the needle on most of these issues in Colorado, and there are promising signs that as Colorado goes, so, eventually, may go the nation.

Here's one interesting tell: **my YouTube channel just went over 100,000 hits**. I've got over 600 videos up, and the vast majority of them are political, though there's a fair amount of music also. I'd wager the lion's share of the videos are of **Senator Irene Aguilar**, and her press conference announcing her **Colorado Health Care Cooperative** remains one of the more popular videos.

Last week the reigning champion at the top of my hit list was a video of President Obama arriving in Aurora on Air Force One last summer, a perennial #1 ever since I posted it. Slots 3-9 are filled with Telluride Bluegrass Festivals ranging from Sam Bush, Bela Fleck, and Chris Thile to Jackson Browne, Steve Martin, and Edie Brickell. But the #2 video for the week was Chuck Kutscher's [Climate Change presentation in Golden](#) last week. If you missed the symposium, click the link for wonderful videos from Golden.

**Hooray for science!** And I hope you can join us next week for a follow-up in Denver on the DU Law Campus with a special focus on the Colorado common ground of [Wildfire, Drought, and Environmental Health](#).

I'm going to keep this *relatively* short, since there's still much to do this month, and as much as I love to talk and write, I love action even more. When I stepped up my involvement in the Democratic Party years ago and was elected Denver County Secretary, one of my biggest goals was to turn our idealism into action. I'm proud of my track record of leadership in the County and in my House District, helping mobilize neighbors to address

★[Colorado Climate Chnage: Wildfire, Drought, and Environmental Health - DU Sturm School of Law, Wednesday, August 28 at 6 p.m](#)

★[The Road to Rocktober? -- Rockies vs. Dodgers, Tuesday, September 3rd at 6:40 p.m.](#)

★[Colorado College Rally with Congresswoman DeGette and Senate President John Morse, Friday, September 6th at Noon](#)

★[House District 2 Democrats Monthly Meeting -- Friends Meeting House, 2280 S. Columbine, Saturday, September 21st at 9:00 a.m](#)

[strict 2 Democrats Monthly Meeting - Friends Meeting House, 2280 S. Columbine in Denver, Saturday, August 17 at 9 a.m. House District 2 Democrats Monthly Meeting - Friends Meeting House, 2280 S. Columbine in Denver, Saturday, August 17 at 9 a.m](#)

## VIDEO OF PAST EVENTS

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★[OFA Regional Climate Change Symposium in Golden, August 15, 2013](#)

★[HD2 Forum on Funding Public Schools, August 6, 2013](#)

★[House District 2 Monthly](#)

everything from universal healthcare, tuition equity, and immigration reform to affordable housing, election reform, campaign finance reform, marriage equity, renewable energy, and more.

And yes, we always need help. Definitely. Unequivocally. There are any number of opportunities to jump in and aide the efforts around town and throughout the state this month, but **I can't think of anything more important in the weeks between now and September 10th than helping to defend Senators Morse and Giron from the recall efforts.**

As I said, Colorado has led the way on a number of issues this year, and extremist groups with ideological differences are trying to use the mechanism of recall elections to make those they disagree with "pay" for their values. Colorado needs to stand up for our election process and for our courageous leaders who have kept their promises and fought for our values. Please do what you can between now and September 10th to show Coloradans and states watching around the country that legislators don't need to fear well-financed special interest groups when they have the interests of individuals at the heart of their actions.

Check my [Defending the Senate](#) page for more information about opportunities to help in this vital effort.

Need help? Yes, thank you. Thanks for acting!

## Triple-Header Fun-Raisers

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I've finally got the [archives of my newsletters](#) up on my website, and it's interesting to see that in one of my earliest communications the big topics were gun safety and Rockies baseball. Little seems to have changed in five months, and I'm heading back to the ballpark with a small group of supporters in Part III of my "How the West Was Won" series. The first two featured a surging Colorado club, but the Dodgers have taken control of the wheel and will maintain the focus on the frontrunner when they come to town in the first week of September.

[Meeting, July 20, 2013](#)

[★Senator Mike Johnston Discusses Funding Public Schools with Denver Young Dems, June 27, 2013](#)

[★Town Hall Conversation with Congresswoman Diana DeGette, May 30, 2013](#)

[★Campaign Kickoff and Birthday Bash at the Bonnet, May 22, 2013](#)

[★Speaker Mark Ferrandino's Legislative Summary with the Denver Young Dems and DU Dems, May 21, 2013](#)

[★House District 2's Monthly Meeting, May 18, 2013](#)

[★Veterans and Military Family's Caucus, Democratic National Convention, September 3, 2012](#)

[★Colorado's First Civil Union Ceremony, May 1, 2013](#)

[★House District 2's Day at the Capitol, April 26, 2013](#)

[★Colorado Social Legislation Committee's Forum on Homelessness, April 22, 2013](#)

[★House District 2 Monthly Meeting, April 20, 2013](#)

[★Colorado Social Legislation Committee's Forum on Fracking, April 8, 2013](#)



vs.



**★President Obama's Remarks on Gun Safety at the Denver Policy Academy, April 3, 2013**

**Thanks to My Birthday Bash at**

**The Bonnet Hosts**

\*\*\*\*\*

- Lori Anderson and Lew Gaiter, Jr.*
- Sarah Bradley*
- Ray Ehrenstein and Jim Sample*
- Frosty and Sam Frostman*
- Lisa Hartman*
- Janet Hartmann*
- Arnold Krupat*
- Nancy Larson*
- Larry Latta*
- Karen Lucas and Bob Barrett*
- Denis Moynihan*
- Tim Naylor*
- Wells Obrecht*
- Tom Parson*
- Anne Perkins*
- Pat Perkins*
- Mary and Peter Peterson*
- Carolyn Pickton*
- T.R. Reid*
- Pete Smith*
- Rex Stephenson*
- Frank Sullivan*
- Dianne Thiel*
- Debra Turner-Kelly*
- Tom Waxter*
- Mike Worford*

I hope you'll join me for an intimate outing at the ballpark on Blake St. on Tuesday, September 3rd as a special fundraiser for my campaign. We'll have tickets ranging from below face value at \$35 and up above face value for those that want to give the campaign an extra boost and join us for drinks and appetizers beforehand. [Please click here to reserve your tickets.](#)

And October brings a pair of very special events as we head to the Denver Center Theater Company for the **World Premiere of *Just Like Us***, the adaptation of **Helen Thorpe's** award-winning book of four Mexican girls coming of age in Denver.



To accommodate varied interests and schedules for what's certain to be one of the highlights of the theatrical season and an inspiring player in the conversation on immigration reform, we're offering two performances as fundraising outings for the campaign.

**Friday, October 4th** is the first preview performance, with slightly reduced prices for this first glimpse of a World Premiere play. The show is at 7:30 p.m., and features a pre-show "**Perspectives**" session with the

**Thanks to My**

**Baseball Fundraiser**

**Hosts**

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- Kevin Brauer*
- Susan Sanders*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Thanks to My**

**"Book**

**of Mormon"**

**design team talking about bringing the production to fruition.** We've got several price ranges to fit your budget, including two at or below the box office cost. [To secure tickets for the preview performance, please click here.](#)

A week later we'll attend the **Opening Weekend matinee on Sunday, October 13th at 1:30 p.m.** This performance will be **followed by a special "Talk Back" with the cast members on stage after the show.** I've been bringing students, Democrats, activists, supporters, and theater-lovers to these performances for almost 25 years now (!), and I've rarely been more excited about a show than I am about this special "page-to-stage" World Premiere. [To secure tickets for the Opening Weekend Sunday matinee, please click here.](#)

If you can't make any of these events, I hope you'll consider a contribution to People for Perkins at any level. We "won" the second quarter fundraising race, but it's just one leg of a long marathon, and I need your help to keep pace this summer and fall. As someone who only takes contributions from individuals -- this is a PAC-free campaign -- I can't tell you how much every \$5 and \$10 "grassroots" contribution means. If you think our campaign's on the right track, I hope you'll give what you can as this race intensifies, and I thank you for your strong support to date. Need help? You betcha!



[Please click the button to contribute on our secure Act Blue page](#), or send a check to:

**People for Perkins**  
P.O. Box 102261

## *Heavenly Hosts*

\*\*\*\*\* (host  
list in formation -  
add your name!)

Kevin Brauer  
Judith Burke  
Peggy Burnette  
Anne Farrell  
Jason Gallardo  
Sarah Hafner  
Elizabeth Harris  
Brendon Hayden  
Steven Hollis  
Ana and Russell Kemp  
Beth and Michael McClellan  
Mohsen Pazirandeh  
Kaye Siemers  
Sally Stein  
Brian Stockmar

Denver, Colorado 80250-2261.

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## Upcoming Events

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- Saturday, August 24 - **House District 2 Day of Action - Defending Our Senate in Colorado Springs with Speaker Ferrandino.** Join HD2 activists and others as we journey to Colorado Springs to support Senate President John Morse in his recall election. We'll carpool down and meet at the Peak Dems headquarters at 10 a.m. to spend a few hours or more canvassing for a great leader. Please e-mail me at [PeopleForPerkinsHD2@gmail.com](mailto:PeopleForPerkinsHD2@gmail.com) if you can join us.
- Sunday, August 25 - ***The Butler*, Dinner-and-a-Movie Fundraiser for House District 2.** Please join us for a 3:45 screening of *The Butler* at the Colorado Center on Colorado Blvd. at I-25, followed by dinner and a discussion of the movie across the street at Perkins restaurant. This should be an excellent opportunity to see a unique perspective on the Civil Rights Movement and to discuss the evolving role of race in America with great company for a good cause. [For more information and to RSVP, please click here.](#)
- Wednesday, August 28 -- **Colorado Climate Change: Wildfire, Drought, and Environmental Health.** Please join me for this forum sponsored by Organizing for Action and the DU Law Dems. Panelists include **Senator Jeanne Nicholson, Dr. Yadira Caraveo** (White House Climate Change Champion), **Will Townsend** (Black Forest Strong), and **Laura Farris** (EPA Region 8 Climate Change Coordinator.) The forum is from **6-8 p.m.** in Room 165 (Moot Courtroom), Ricketson Building at the DU Sturm School of Law, 2255 W. Evans. [Please click here for more information](#), drop me an e-mail if you'd like to help with the forum, or go to



[www.barackobama.com](http://www.barackobama.com) to RSVP.

- Tuesday, September 3 -- **How the West Was Won, Part III: The Road to Rocktober?** Join our small group for an outing to see the Rockies take on the surging Dodgers at 6:40 p.m. as the road to the World Series rolls through LoDo. [To reserve your tickets, please click here.](#)
- Friday, September 6 - **Colorado College Rally for Senate President John Morse with Congresswoman Diana DeGette.** Please join Congresswoman DeGette, other CC alumni, and friends and supporters in a **noon rally** on campus followed by a Voter Registration drive and a Get Out the Vote canvass. CC will be returning to campus that week, and students who meet residence requirements can register up to Election Day and vote the same day. Please drop me a note at [PeopleForPerkinsHD2@gmail.com](mailto:PeopleForPerkinsHD2@gmail.com) if you can join us.
- Saturday, September 21 - **House District 2 Democrats Monthly Meeting** at the **Friends Meeting House** at 2280 S. Columbine, near DU. The meeting is from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m., with social time, coffee and sweets at 8:30.

Thanks so much for keeping in touch and reading the news from my campaign in House District 2. Please don't hesitate to call or write if you've got news to share, concerns to raise, or ideas to bounce around. See you around the district!

Sincerely,

Owen Perkins  
Candidate for Colorado State Representative  
House District 2  
[www.OwenPerkins.org](http://www.OwenPerkins.org); (303) 722-1655



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